

THE CIVILIAN

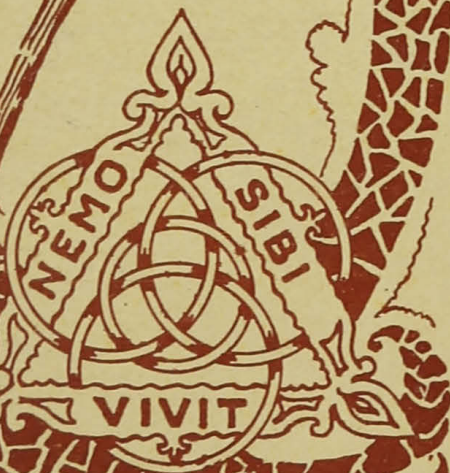
A FORTNIGHTLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS
OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE OF CANADA

FEATURES

Topographical Surveys Work, 1916.
Our Dead and Wounded.
The Roll of Honour.
Killed by Neglect.
Notes on Estimates.
Co-operation.
The Postal Journal.

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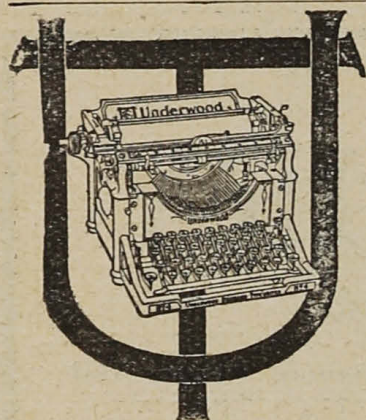
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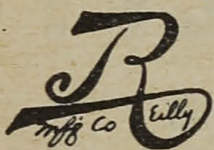
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THE CIVILIAN

VOL. VIII.

APRIL 14, 1916.

No. 26

Topographical Surveys Work, 1916.

About fifty surveyors will be engaged in the western provinces this season on the survey of Dominion lands under instructions of the Surveyor-General. The chief surveys on which they will be employed may be classed under the following heads:

(1) Survey of base lines and initial meridians. (2) Township subdivision. (3) Retracement and resurveys. (4) Stadia surveys. (5) Inspection.

(1) *Meridians and base lines.*—Three surveyors will be engaged on the survey of base lines and initial meridians. As these lines form the basis for all surveys that follow, they must be established with the greatest care and accuracy, and in order to allow the department to readily proceed with subdivision surveys wherever settlement may subsequently require them. The system of base lines and meridians must be extended into the unexplored districts.

The surveys are, therefore, as a rule, carried on in places remote from settlement, where practically no means of communication with civilization exist. The work, however, is carried on with great precision. The surveyor is furnished with first class equipment in instruments, and no surveys except those made in geodetic work are carried out with greater refinement. Good results are being obtained, and are largely due to the attention which the surveyors devote to the many smaller, yet not unimportant, details of the work. Each surveyor in charge of one of these surveys has under him a party of twenty-three men. In addition to the survey of the actual line, the country for a distance of twelve miles on either side is explored; from the explorers' reports, maps are prepared which show the topography of the district, the kind and quality of the timber, and the nature of the soil. Simultaneously with these surveys, levels of the lines are taken; these form parts of a great network of levels which is being extended over the entire country.

(2) *Township subdivisions.*—Twenty-two surveyors will be employed in subdividing townships. Five of these will be engaged on various small subdivisions where it is not necessary to subdivide the whole township.

Two important improvements were made last year in the method of survey. In the third system of survey, which is the system now in use, it has heretofore been the custom to run the east and west section lines in the township at every two miles. This left either the north or south boundary of every section unsurveyed. All section lines are now run and this will enable the settlers in the more or less wooded districts to find their lines with less difficulty. Last year subdividers were instructed to run a few lines of levels in each township and the information so obtained will undoubtedly be valuable later in the preparation of drainage schemes, highways, and for other purposes. In addition to the actual survey required for the location of the section boundaries and establishment of the monuments the surveyors have for sometime also been instructed to take magnetic observations. The results of these observations besides giving data of considerable practical importance give

magnetic values of great scientific importance in connection with the study of the earth's magnetism.

(3) *Resurveys and retracement*.—Three surveyors will be employed on resurveys and one in retracing base lines. These retracements or resurveys are made either for the purpose of correcting errors in the original survey or to establish new boundary monuments in cases where the markings of the older surveys have disappeared.

(4) *Stadia surveys*.—Eleven surveyors will be engaged this season on stadia surveys in Saskatchewan and Alberta. These surveys are made for the purpose of determining the extent of water areas as they now exist. At the time of the early surveys many bodies of water existed which have now partially or entirely dried up, leaving considerably more land available for settlement. In some instances bodies of water are found which did not exist, or were not noticed by the surveyor when subdividing the townships; in other instances the courses of rivers are found to have greatly altered. Each township is carefully examined by a stadia party and the information collected is used in the compilation of new township plans representing conditions as they are at present.

(5) *Inspection of surveys*.—Six Dominion land surveyors will act as inspectors this season. It is their duty to visit the camps of surveyors in charge of parties, and to report to the Surveyor-General on their instrumental equipment and outfits, the work performed and the general fitness of the surveyor to have charge of a party. When not engaged on inspection work, the inspectors occupy their time as far as possible in the performance of subdivision and miscellaneous surveys that are required.

The B.C.—Alberta boundary.—The survey of the interprovincial boundary will be continued this year. This survey was started in 1913 and has been continued every season since. So far all work has been done to the south of the main line of the C.P.R. at Kicking Horse Pass. A great deal of work still remains to be done on this boundary.

Levelling.—Levelling operations will again be under the direction of S. N. Wallace, D.L.S., whose office is in Calgary. Over 10,000 miles of levels have already been run and a publication is now in the hands of the printers giving in tabulated form the information collected by the surveyors for 7,400 miles of levels already taken.

In addition to the above, four surveyors will be in charge of travelling parties to carry on miscellaneous small surveys, to investigate errors, the drying up of lakes, lost monuments, etc.

(In the following list are given: the name of the surveyor, his home address, the character and location of his work for this season, and the place where his party will organize.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| J. R. Akins, Edmonton—Base lines northwest of Peace River Crossing.—Edmonton. | lines east of Lac la Biche.—Prince Albert. |
| C. F. Aylesworth, Madoc—Resurveys southeast of Hudson Bay Junction.—Winnipeg. | W. J. Boulton, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—Stadia survey southeast of Calgary.—High River. |
| J. C. Baker, Kingston—Subdivisions northwest of Peace River Crossing.—Edmonton. | E. P. Bowman, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—Stadia survey northwest of Battleford.—Battleford. |
| G. A. Bennett, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—Stadia survey vicinity of Saskatoon.—Saskatoon. | L. Brenot, Edmonton—Subdivision Upper Peace River.—Edmonton. |
| G. H. Blanchet, Ile a la Crosse, Sask.—Base | J. H. Brownlee, Dawson, Yukon Territory—Director of Surveys, Yukon Territory.—Dawson. |
| | J. A. Buchanan, Edmonton—Subdivision |

north of Peace River Crossing.—Edmonton.

J. A. Calder, Ashcroft, British Columbia—Subdivision vicinity of Ashcroft.—Kamloops or Ashcroft.

R. W. Cautley, Edmonton—Alberta-British Columbia Boundary.—Calgary.

W. Christie, Prince Albert—Subdivision northeast of Prince Albert.—Prince Albert.

J. M. Cote, Ottawa—Resurveys Central Saskatchewan.—Prince Albert.

G. C. Cowper, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—Stadia survey vicinity of Medicine Hat.—Medicine Hat.

T. A. Davies, Edmonton—Stadia survey southwest of Lloydminster.—Edmonton.

S. L. Evans, Calgary—Resurveys Southern Saskatchewan.—Regina or Swift Current.

S. D. Fawcett, Edmonton—Subdivision Upper Peace River.—Edmonton.

J. A. Fletcher, Edmonton—Base lines west of Lake Athabaska.—Edmonton.

A. E. Glover, Edmonton—Subdivision southwest of Lesser Slave Lake.—Edmonton.

J. H. Johnston, Peace River Crossing—Subdivisions east of Peace River Crossing.—Edmonton.

W. J. Johnston, Vancouver—Subdivisions Revelstoke District.—Revelstoke.

R. H. Knight, Edmonton—Subdivision north of Lac la Biche.—Edmonton.

A. Lighthall, Vancouver—Subdivision southwest of Peace River Crossing.—Edmonton.

P. M. H. LeBlanc, Ottawa—Subdivision Le Pas District.—Le Pas.

D. F. McEwen, Kingston—Subdivision west of Lesser Slave Lake.—Edmonton.

P. J. McGarry, Merritton—Subdivision northwest of Prince Albert.—Prince Albert.

R. B. McKay, Vancouver—Subdivision New Westminster District.—Vancouver.

J. H. McKnight, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—Stadia survey southeast of Prince Albert.—Prince Albert.

W. H. Norrish, Ottawa—Subdivision northeast of Prince Albert.—Prince Albert.

P. E. Palmer, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—Stadia survey south of Saskatoon.—Saskatoon.

J. W. Pierce, Pembroke—Subdivision southeast of Lac la Biche.—Edmonton.

C. Rinfret, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—Stadia survey southwest of Moosejaw.—Moosejaw.

F. V. Seibert, Edmonton—Subdivision north of Peace River.—Edmonton.

W. A. Scott, Galt—Stadia survey north of Regina.—Regina.

H. M. R. Soars, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—Stadia survey southeast of Edmonton.—Edmonton.

N. C. Stewart, Nelson—Subdivision Golden

District.—Golden.

A. G. Stuart, Winnipeg—Retracement of bases Central Saskatchewan.—Lloydminster.

C. H. Taggart, Kamloops—Subdivision Kamloops District.—Kamloops.

J. W. Tyrell, Hamilton—Subdivision east of Lake Winnipeg.—Winnipeg.

C. M. Walker, Banff—Stadia survey south of Prince Albert.—Prince Albert.

J. N. Wallace, Calgary—In charge of levelling Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.—Calgary.

J. S. Galletly, Oshawa—Subdivision along Carrot River.

E. S. Martindale, Top. Surveys Branch, Ottawa—In charge of travelling party.

T. H. Plunkett, Meaford—In charge of travelling party.

R. C. Purser, Ottawa—In charge of travelling party.

M. P. Bridgland, Calgary—In charge of travelling party.

INSPECTORS.

The following surveyors are the inspectors that have been appointed for the season:

P. R. A. Belanger, Ottawa, Ont.
 W. J. Deans, Brandon, Man.
 L. E. Fontaine, Levis, P.Q.
 G. J. Lonergan, Buckingham, P.Q.
 C. F. Miles, Toronto, Ont.
 A. M. Narraway, Ottawa, Ont.

OUR DEAD AND WOUNDED.

LIEUT. HUGH PETERS.

Lieutenant Hugh Peters, 1st Pioneers, reported severely wounded in the casualty list of March 27th, is assistant engineer of the Department of Public Works at Victoria, B.C. He is a son of Colonel Peters of Victoria, a graduate of the Royal Military College, and a captain in No. 11 Detachment of the Corps of Guides.

LIEUT. R. W. POWELL.

Lieutenant R. W. Powell, reported wounded in the casualty list of April 8th, is an engineer of the Department of Public Works, and was last engaged on the Upper Ottawa Improvement Works. He is a son of Dr. R. W. Powell, and a graduate of the Royal Military College. He

left Canada a year ago as an officer of No. 4 Field Company, Canadian Engineers.

LANCE-CORPORAL D. M. TRAPNELL.

Lance-Corporal Donald M. Trapnell, a technical assistant on the staff of the Forest Products Laboratories, Montreal, a part of the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, has been missing since the battle of St. Julien. He was officially "reported missing" last September, but friends have been hoping, almost against hope, that he might be a prisoner and would eventually turn up again. Now, however, particulars have been received which would appear to extinguish the last ray of hope. These particulars state that Trapnell with fourteen comrades, all that were left of three hundred of one of the Canadian units who had withstood the onslaught at Ypres, were retiring from their trench to join what was left of a unit of Canadian Scots across a road. Just as they climbed out a "Jack Johnson" exploded, killing Trapnell and another, the narrator of the incident being the third at that spot, and he was buried by the debris and had a hairbreadth escape. Trapnell was not wounded apparently and was, therefore, probably killed by the concussion. As the Germans were coming on again the survivor was compelled to leave the bodies and crawl to cover.

Corporal Trapnell, who entered the Service in March, 1914, came from St. John's, Newfoundland, and had given promise of a useful and brilliant career.

The highest point of good breeding is to show a very nice regard to your own dignity, and with that in your own heart, to express your value for the man above you.—*Steele*.

THE INEVITABLE.

O let us contemplate the change
that's come to our dear land;
The bitter cold, the frost, the snow,
the biting blast have passed,
And Mother Nature smiles once more
with manner sweet and bland,
For the frigid tyrant's reign has
ceased and we are free at last.

O how the rude and cruel King of
winter tortured us!
Methought that Spring would never
come to cheer each drooping heart;
But, true unto the will of Him who
rules, "be this, or thus,"
The mighty sun, with giant force,
tore Winter's gloom apart.

Cheer up! The Kaiser still contends
against the powers for good,
And some doubters think that he
may even yet prevail;
But, even as proud Winter bowed
to Mother Spring's strong mood,
So will the Kaiser droop beneath the
Allies' fist of mail.

—*Garrett O'Connor*.

Bridgeburg.

THE GIRL WHO WAITS BEHIND.

You meet her in the ballroom,
You meet her on the street,
With a smile so quick and flashing,
And a laugh that's clear and sweet.
But sometimes in the laughter,
A deeper note you'll find,
And her eyes are tear filled, yearning,
She's the girl who waits behind.

She sent him off still smiling,
She stifled down her pain;
Her bit is work and praying,
Till he comes back again.
And out there in the fighting,
In the trench so grim, gun lined,
There's a man who thanks his Maker,
For the girl who waits behind.

—*Irene Murray Dickson*.

Ottawa.

The Roll of Honour.

FORTY-FOURTH LIST.

A. J. Chisholm, Customs Dept., Ottawa, C.A.S.C.
 T. S. Falkner, Customs Dept., Ottawa, C.A.S.C.
 P. G. Hesson, Customs, Port Arthur, 94th Battalion, C.E.F.
 Earl Huntley, Customs, Edmonton, 194th Battalion, C.E.F.
 H. E. A. Purvis, Customs, Sault Ste. Marie, 119th Battalion, C.E.F.
 Major P. C. Shaw, Customs, Lethbridge, 192nd Battalion, C.E.F.
 Capt. H. M. Chadwick, Customs, Saskatoon, 160th Battalion, C.E.F.
 Capt. and Adj. G. E. Coombs, Customs, Prince Albert, 188th Battalion, C.E.F.
 S. S. Hewitt, Customs, Vancouver, C.F.A., C.E.F.
 Lieut. E. C. Knox, Customs, Winnipeg, 101st Battalion, C.E.F.
 Rennie Lendrum, Customs, Emerson, 222nd Battalion, C.E.F.
 N. F. McDonald, Customs, Glace Bay, 36th Battery, C.F.A., C.E.F.
 R. C. Marshall, Customs, Vancouver, 72nd Battalion, C.E.F.
 Bert Robertson, Customs, Toronto, 54th Battery, C.F.A., C.E.F.
 H. A. M. Ross, Customs, Fort William, 10th C.M.R.
 Capt. T. C. Rubbra, Customs, Wetaskiwin, 194th Battalion, C.E.F.
 Hugh Smyth, Customs, Sault Ste. Marie, 119th Battalion, C.E.F.
 C. J. Dionne, Railway Mail Clerk, St. John, N.B.
 G. F. Smith, Railway Mail Clerk, St. John, N.B.
 F. C. Taylor, Railway Mail Clerk, St. John, N.B.
 H. S. Bovaird, Railway Mail Clerk, Toronto.
 W. S. Wilson, Railway Mail Clerk, Toronto.
 G. W. Jones, Railway Mail Clerk, Toronto.
 H. E. Roos, Railway Mail Clerk, London.
 T. H. Walker, Railway Mail Clerk, Winnipeg.
 J. A. Huntley, Railway Mail Clerk, Winnipeg.
 S. H. Thorson, Railway Mail Clerk, Saskatoon.
 R. A. Pritchard, Railway Mail Clerk, Saskatoon.
 Ernest Herbert Turner, Letter Carrier, Chatham.
 Basil Ernest Turtle, Post Office, Winnipeg.
 William John Whaley, Railway Mail Clerk, Winnipeg.
 Fred White, Letter Carrier, Galt.
 Trevor George Willis, Railway Mail Clerk, Winnipeg.
 J. A. Wood, Post Office Inspector's Office, Ottawa.
 Andrew Wyseman, Letter Carrier, Edmonton.
 W. D. Wallace, Public Works, Toronto, 166th Battalion, C.E.F.
 James Warner, Public Works, Haileybury, No. 1 Tunnelling Co.
 G. H. Wattsford, Public Works, Ottawa, C.A.S.C.
 M. L. Wayne, Public Works, Ottawa, C.A.S.C.
 Barrett Wood, Public Works, Winnipeg, 101st Battalion, C.E.F.
 ——— Worthington, Public Works, Fort Fraser, B.C., 67th Battalion, C.E.F.
 John A. Heisler, Public Works, Ottawa, 80th Battalion, C.E.F.
 F. Butchers, Dominion Police, Ottawa.
 H. R. Butchers, Dominion Police, Ottawa.
 A. Hibbard, Dominion Police, Ottawa.
 G. Ingram, Dominion Police, Ottawa.
 H. C. Prior, Dominion Police, Ottawa.

THE CIVILIAN

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THE CIVILIAN, P. O. Box 484, Ottawa.

Ottawa, April 14, 1916.

THE NATIONAL DUTY.

"We are now in death grips with our enemies in a war which has upset all our preconceived theories regarding modern warfare. The question is, 'Are we going to be governed by German autocracy, or are we to be guided by British liberty and truth?' We as Canadians should stand together and consider no sacrifice too great to make, even to the shedding of our last drop of blood, that the principles for which the British Empire stands shall be vindicated. Nothing that is frivolous or useless should be indulged in by any one in the face of this great world-wide tragedy."

—Rev. R. L. T. Ballantyne.

"War is not the greatest of human evils; slavery is a worse evil than war."

—Sir William Peterson.

"The best and most noble thing any young man can do in these terrible times is to offer his manhood and services, and if needs be his life, in the cause of King and Country. The man who stands by and looks on while others struggle for liberty and give their lives for God, and home, and native land, has no right to call himself a Christian."

—Rev. C. A. Williams.

OUR BOYS

Previously reported:

Dead	45
Wounded	80
Prisoners	7

DEAD.

Lance-Corp. D. M. TRAPNELL

WOUNDED.

LIEUT. HUGH PETERS.

LIEUT. R. W. POWELL.

KILLED BY NEGLECT.

The persistent and reckless neglect with which civil servants treat all their own enterprises has been brought into prominence once more by the misfortune of the Co-operative Supply Association. When the announcement of the winding-up proceedings was made public, there arose from all sides a chorus of "I didn't know there was any trouble," "I can't understand it," "I wish I had attended the meetings," and similar wails—complaints which were confessions of guilt and which explained the whole difficulty. It was because the members and debenture holders would not attend meetings and were, in consequence, grossly ignorant of the state of the association's affairs that the concern came to grief.

A large attendance at the frequent general meetings of the association might not have resulted in any change in the direction of its affairs, for the officers and directors were as good as could have been secured, but it would have resulted in a stimulation of interest and support which was the necessity that the enterprise lacked. When such general meetings were held, those present seldom exceeded a score in number, and always they were "the same old

crowd,"—the little band of enthusiasts who looked and longed for a triumph of co-operative principles and who were willing to give their time and energy to the cause.

Had these meetings been attended by five or ten times that number, there would have been a spread of education, of understanding and of determination that would have given the organization just the strength it needed. Instead of having to work unceasingly to maintain the interest and overcome the inertia of the members, the directors would have been assisted by a spirited body of propagandists and success would have been sure and easy. A hundred or two hundred men and women continually advocating co-operative effort would have secured many times the small amount of extra capital needed to assure the safety of the enterprise. Instead of a long and arduous campaign, carried on by a dozen men, accomplishing the sale or exchange of \$5,000 worth of debentures, the whole \$10,000 issue would have been disposed of. With that amount of capital, the management could have easily overcome the small difficulties which brought about the final disaster.

The stores had no great trouble in getting trade. Sales increased from year to year and profits paid off the heavy expenses incurred in launching the business. It would have been better, perhaps, if the sales had been smaller, for then it would not have been necessary to tie up practically the whole of the capital in stock. Sales averaging \$7,000 a month require a large reserve of goods, a great part of which must be purchased at certain seasons in sufficient quantity to last for a year.

The wonder is really not that the enterprise came to grief but that the directors were able to keep it going as long as they did. The courage and skill with which they faced and

handled repeated crises testified to their devotion to their task and to their resourcefulness in difficulty. They made a splendid fight. Credit, not blame, should be theirs.

The thousand and one details of the inner history of the Co-operative Supply Association are unknown even to its ordinary members. Their ignorance is their own fault and the loss which may fall upon them is but an appropriate penalty. They were willing to profit by co-operation but they were not co-operators.

The co-operative movement in Ottawa is not dead nor has it received the set-back that some believe. Those who are conversant with the real history of the Supply Association, and all who understand what is really meant by "co-operation," know that this failure cannot be used in any way to confute the soundness of co-operative principles. In future days, when co-operation has triumphed in Ottawa and in all Canada, the promoters of this enterprise will be regarded as pioneer heroes of the cause.

MONEY-LENDERS AGAIN?

The assertion is made that money-lending is becoming prevalent again at the Printing Bureau. Whether this is true or not *The Civilian* cannot say. If it is a false alarm, it but recalls the constant need for watchfulness against the usurer. If the statement is true, some steps should be taken to eradicate the evil practice.

When usury was rampant in the government service a few years ago, the Printing Bureau employees suffered sorely. When a courageous civil servant took up the work of expelling the money-lenders, and, backed by publicity and public feeling, won splendid successes in the courts, the Bureau employees shared

in the relief that came to all the unfortunate borrowers of Ottawa.

The Civil Service Savings and Loan Society has been the greatest factor in protecting the Service from the insidious return of the Shylock. Any civil servant who needed its assistance, and who had a decent reputation to recommend him, has always found the helping hand outstretched—if the society had funds in hand to aid him. Unfortunately it has often been the case that the amounts asked for in loans exceeded the available funds, and so some petitioners have had to be disappointed. The society's operations are absolutely limited by the deposits of funds by its members.

If there is need, cannot a "savings and loan" society be organized among the Bureau employees? There might be greater difficulty than was encountered in forming the Civil Service organization, as the tenure of employment, periods of wage payment, drawbacks, etc., are different, but none of these obstacles should prove insuperable to safe progress if the right men had the project in hand.

PATRONAGE AND VOLUNTEERING.

There is moral injustice in the system which gives "net civil pay" to one Government employee who enlists and denies any continuance of civil pay to another, yet how it can be eliminated is hard to see. The Government joins with many big employing corporations in giving special inducements to men who go to the front,—but in all cases the men concerned must be permanent employees. The Government is confronted with the problem of hundreds of more or less temporary employees who also want to volunteer and who claim recognition in the way of continued pay and guarantees of re-employment after the war.

Many of these men have been working for the Government for many years and are likely to continue to do so for many years more. From these the list runs down in many gradations to the men who merely "got a public works job for the winter." The situation is difficult,—and it is just one more of the deplorable results of patronage. If officials in charge of all branches of public works had power to employ the men they needed and to organize staffs of mechanical workers beyond the influence of "pull," those divisions of the public service would at once assume the permanent character now attained only by the clerical branches, and the problems of administration and of giving even justice to all would be greatly simplified. Eliminate patronage from all branches of the public service and numerous attendant evils will automatically disappear.

"A plate of beans for a nickle," says a writer in an Ottawa newspaper. Tut! Tut! Doesn't the man know that a "plate" of beans costs a dime? All one can get for a nickle is a "side" of beans,—and no choice of "white or brown" with it.

The editors frequently receive requests from subscribers for copies of back issues of *The Civilian* or for the re-publication of special articles. Such requests are difficult,—often impossible,—to comply with, for obvious reasons. Subscribers are advised to file their *Civilian's* away for future reference. Such a file soon becomes an encyclopedia of Civil Service information.

Fortitude I take to be the quiet possession of a man's self, and an undisturbed doing his duty whatever evils beset, or dangers lie in the way. In itself an essential virtue, it is a guard to every other virtue.—*Locke*.

NOTES ON ESTIMATES.

The discussions in Committee of Supply in the House of Commons afford items of interest to members of the Civil Service everywhere.

Dogfish and Astronomy.

Curious evidence is afforded by those discussions of the multifarious activities of the Service. The discussion of the estimates of the Fisheries Department on 31st March began with the dogfish question. During a certain season of the year fishermen along the whole Atlantic coast from the Gulf of Mexico to the St. Lawrence find their gear broken and the fish chased away by the dogfish, a creature of gregarious and predatory habits. In comparatively recent years this dogfish has become a pest,—just why is a story that has nothing to do with the estimates. The Dominion Government undertook experiments with a view to protecting the fisheries. Factories were established at several points, where the dogfish is reduced to oil and scrap,—the latter used as fertilizer by farmers and gardeners. It was hoped to demonstrate that the dogfish could be made the basis of a profitable industry. But the plan has not worked out, and nobody will go into the business as a commercial undertaking. Therefore, the dogfish multiplies and replenishes the sea, and the troubles of the fisherman are greater than ever. The suggestion was made in the debate that people should eat the dogfish, and that, to this end, canneries should be established. But there is a prejudice against this food, though some who have tried it declare it is both palatable and nutritious. However, everybody knows how hateful food is that is eaten because somebody else recommends it as palatable and nutritious. Besides, it is said that the canned dogfish is not as cheap as canned salmon from British Columbia. Therefore, and for

these reasons, the matter is left to the Fisheries Advisory Board for consideration and report.

Meantime, there is another cause for worry on the part of the civil servants who have in charge the work of distributing the dogfish scrap. If the price is high nobody will buy the stuff, and if the price is low some speculator wants to get a monopoly of it. At present the plan is to sell it in small lots to individual farmers at a fixed price. But, judging by the remarks of the Minister, if anybody knows of a better scheme those concerned will be glad to hear it.

Later on in the same day there was a change of venue, so to speak, and the Committee of Supply had the Minister of the Interior on the grill. The question was not dogfish, but the big new telescope that is to be at Saanich, B.C., for observation purposes. The telescope was ordered before the war. It was the biggest and best thing of its kind in the world then, but it may have a rival by this time. Dr. Plaskett is to be in charge of the new observatory, and he is to have a sufficient staff, mostly recruited from the members of the Astronomical Branch in Ottawa. Some members of the House objected to the expense, which is estimated at about a quarter of a million dollars, of which \$90,000 is for the telescope itself and the remainder for the dome to house the instrument and office and living quarters for the staff. The British Columbia Government has provided a road to the place from Victoria, the neighboring city, and has donated the site for the buildings, their contribution being estimated at \$50,000.

From trying out dogfish on the Atlantic coast to photographing invisible constellations by means of the biggest refractor on earth, located on a mountain overlooking the Pacific, is something of a change, but it

is all part of the day's work with the Canadian Civil Service.

Immigration.

The falling off in immigration caused by the war has led to a demand that the expenditure in this service shall be greatly reduced. A reduction of \$300,000 in the estimate this year as compared with last year did not please the critics. Some were for a radical cutting down of expenditure, on the ground that there is no immigration and that the expenditure should be in proportion. But Dr. Roche, Minister of the Interior, pointed out that much of the expenditure was contracted for—as, for instance, leases of buildings for offices of agencies already established. He argued also that nobody could guarantee him that the staff would not be needed, or that it could be got together again if disbanded. Besides, either permanent officials must be permanent or the whole Civil Service would suffer. The critics were evidently not completely satisfied as was shown by the fact that the discussion was resumed on another occasion. One effect of the debate was to bring out the fact that the Canadian immigration service is a widespread affair. It has offices in Europe, agencies in the United States, and hospitals and depots in Canada. It has to deal with such difficult and perplexing problems as deportation of undesirables, the placing of people on the land, and the care of thousands whose knowledge of our language and our ways makes it hard for them to help themselves. The service will continue, efficient but very economical.

As Others See Us.

The frankness with which the actions of civil servants are discussed by their superiors, the elected representatives of the people, brings out some expressions of opinion that are disconcerting or amusing, according

as one may regard them. In a discussion of the question of fish transportation, Mr. William Chisholm, M. P. for Antigonish, N.S., said, "Evidently the Minister of Marine and Fisheries is ready to take the statement of the theorists of his department as against the evidence of practical, common-sense men who know what they are talking about." But this same gentleman highly commended the vote for a fisheries exhibit at the Toronto Exhibition. He had visited Toronto, he said, "and it was a matter of great pride and pleasure to me to hear the words of commendation on all sides regarding the fisheries exhibit." Evidently the people in the Fisheries Department are practical people as well as theorists.

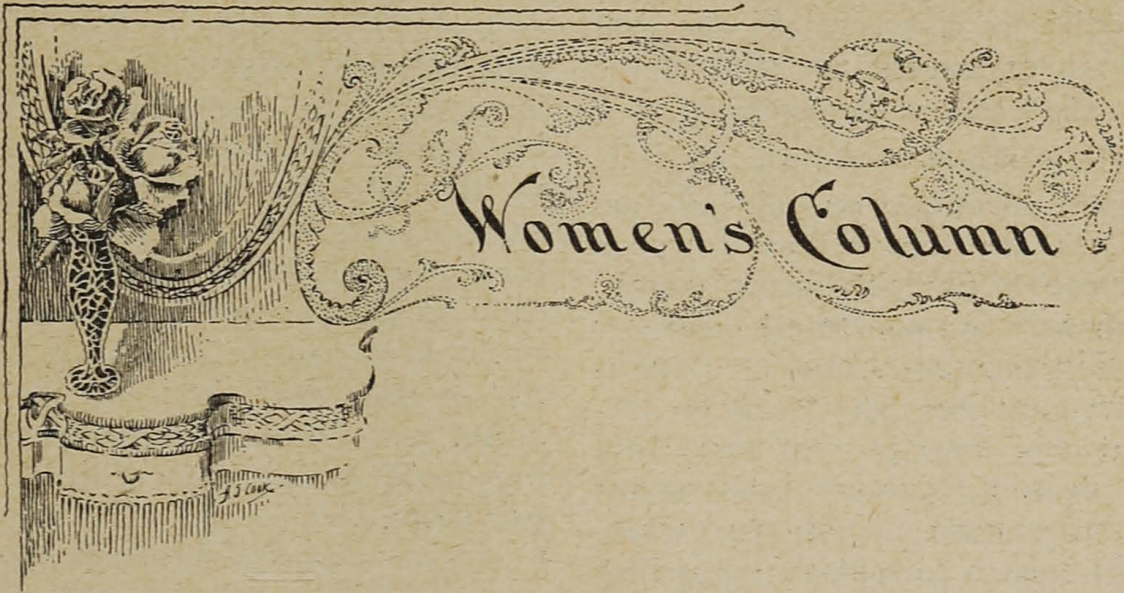
Mr. Nesbitt, who represents North Oxford, Ontario, fell foul of the expenditures for some of the specimens in the Victoria Memorial Museum, in whose building Parliament is now housed, especially the great totem poles which are justly the pride of the ethnologists of the Geological Survey. He objected to paying a lot of money for "trash for the museum, such as wooden elephants and whales, or those big wooden things we see at the entrance to this building,—and if they cost anything the man who bought them ought to be sent to jail."

Some people say it is better to be criticized than to be neglected. The purchaser of the totem poles may or may not agree with this view.

A Noble Request.

(Hamilton Spectator.)

Enduring will be the memory of Capt. G. T. Richardson, noted sportsman of Kingston, killed in battle. He leaves \$30,000 in trust for the education of children of men of his company who are killed or disabled. This noble action is redolent of the floweriest days of knighthood.



At the Advisory Board of the W.B. C.S.A., held at the Carnegie Library on Thursday, the 6th April, the Treasurer showed a balance of \$52.00 at the end of February, to the credit of the Red Cross and Emergency Fund, after a deduction of thirty-five dollars, set aside towards the payment of the Canadian Civil Service Red Cross at the front, and the Ottawa Welfare Bureau. The sum of \$25.00 was voted towards the Belgian Relief Fund, and it was decided to keep the balance of \$27.00 for some urgent cause, which may arise in the near future.

A Luncheon-lecture under the auspices of the Women's branch of the Association is being arranged for at the Chateau Laurier at an early date. Miss Carrie M. Derrick, professor of Botany and Zoology at McGill University, who is very favourably known and has many friends in Ottawa, has kindly consented to deliver the lecture, the subject of which ought to lend great scope for expression of thought, and be of particular interest to all who have the good fortune to hear it, — WAR, WOMEN AND INDUSTRY.

It may not be amiss, even at this early date, to mention that the Women's Branch has already arranged with Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, of New York, for a lecture to be given early next October. This we hope will be the beginning of a series of

such lectures during the year 1916-17.

Miss Florence M. Burt, the President of the Women's Branch of the C.S.A. was nominated by the Women's Canadian Club of Ottawa, as a member of the Executive for the year 1916-17. The election of officers will take place at the Chateau Laurier on Saturday, the 15th of April. Those who know Miss Burt personally, and the keen interest she takes in the leading questions of the day, realize the acquisition she will be as a member of the Executive of the Women's Canadian Club.

The annual meeting of the Recreation Club for the election of officers for the year 1916-17, took place on the 27th March, the following having been elected:—

Hon. President, Miss M. LaFleur; President, Miss Ina Blackburn, Secretary, Miss M. A. MacDonald; Treasurer, Miss G. Shore; Committee, the Misses Hunter, Cummings and Duhamel.

The report of the year's work showed a growing interest in the several diversions of the club, which include Riding and Dancing lessons, and excursions of different kinds.

As an evidence of organization and interest combined, a dancing class recently formed, was organized in a week, with an attendance of fifty-eight members on the opening night.

Arrangements for a riding-class are now under way, and prospective mem-

bers, or riders who wish to get in touch with the class, would do well to send their names to Miss Olive Hunter, Post Office Department.

The Civil Service Tennis Club is being again organized and already arrangements are under way towards securing courts for the coming season. The Club will be open to all members of the Civil Service. Miss G. Loughran, Currency Branch, Finance Department, the President of the Club, will be pleased to receive the names of those intending to join the Club, or will furnish information regarding same.

Third Annual Excursion to the Sugar Bush at Ironsides.

Miss Ina Blackburn, the very interested and enthusiastic President of the Recreation Club has arranged for, what promises to be a most delightful and to many a unique excursion, to the Sugar-bush at Ironsides, on Saturday, the 15th of April. Busses have been engaged to take the party, and will leave from the Corner of Sparks and Bank streets at two o'clock. The return fare will be 40c and members intending to participate in this outing should notify Miss M. A. MacDonald, Secretary of the Club, Forestry Branch, Interior Department.

THE SLACKER.

The word was in the dictionary before, but the war has given it a new place in our language. It had something of a nondescript quality heretofore, but we have poured meaning into it; we have added to it all the contempt that man ought to feel for the coward, the shirker, the man who refuses to stand up squarely to his duty. And we do well to put teeth into such a word as that, being sure always that we apply it to men who really deserve it. But we mustn't forget that the man who refuses to put on khaki is not

the only kind of slacker that the country has. Life is full of duties and responsibilities, and it seems to be sadly true that there is quite a big crowd of folks whose great aim in life is to get through by escaping as many of them as they can. There is a slacker habit that seems very easy to acquire, and there are quite too many people sneaking through life seeing what they can get out of doing instead of bracing up and taking duty as an opportunity and a privilege.

—*Christian Guardian.*

You never really know a man until you have sold him something and collected for it.



Royal Naval College of Canada.

THE next examination for the entry of Naval Cadets will be held at the examination centres of the Civil Service Commission in May, 1916, successful candidates joining the College on or about 1st August. Applications for entry will be received up to 15th April by the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Ottawa, from whom blank entry forms can now be obtained.

Candidates for the examination in May next must be between the ages of fourteen and sixteen on the 1st July, 1916.

The scheme of training at the College is based on that in force in the English Naval Colleges at Osborne and Dartmouth, but it is not compulsory for cadets to follow a Naval Career when they have completed the course, which lasts three years. McGill and Toronto Universities allow the College course to count as one year at the Science School. The Admiralty will take a maximum of 8 cadets annually into the Royal Navy, where the pay and prospects would be identical with that of cadets who have passed into the Navy from Osborne and Dartmouth.

Further details can be obtained on application to the undersigned.

G. J. DESBARATS,

Deputy Minister of the Naval Service,
Department of the Naval Service,
Ottawa, January 11th, 1916.

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CO-OPERATION.

That the Civil Service Co-operative Supply Association had sustained such a severe loss in its operations for the past fiscal year that it was desirable to apply for a winding-up order, was the news communicated to a general meeting of the membership held in the Assembly Hall of the Y.M.C.A. on Wednesday evening, March 22nd. The meeting endorsed the action of the directors in applying for the winding up, and also approved of the proposal to re-organize as soon as possible.

The directors were able to report that the volume of business had been the largest in the history of the organization, reaching a total of about \$85,000 in groceries, meats and coal, for the eleven months. The auditor's statement, however, showed that there had been a serious decline in gross profits, and that the net liabilities exceeded the assets by about \$2,500. The operating expenses were not greatly in excess of those of the previous year.

Inasmuch as the Association had not the capital or reserve resources to stand such a heavy loss, a meeting of the principal creditors was arranged. Two of these creditors are also retail competitors of the Association. They declined to grant the necessary extension, and there was therefore no alternative but to apply for a winding-up order in order to protect the debenture issue.

The causes of the failure were gone into to some extent in the statement of the President, H. T. Owens. They were due to ineffective supervision by the management, and to the fact that inventories were not taken with sufficient frequency. The custom in other years of taking an annual inventory was followed, but it would have been safer to have had audited statements based on quarterly inventories, thus being able to

detect sooner inefficiency of management and other leaks.

A general discussion followed the President's statement of the situation, which, though critical, was courteous, fair and constructive. Members of the Board elucidated the position from various angles.

The members approved of the directors' resolution to wind up, and, on motion of Mr. T. Lawson, Finance Department, requested the appointment of a committee to consider the best means of fostering the co-operative enterprise.

The following names have been suggested to compose the continuation committee: Dr. A. W. G. Wilson, F. C. Nunnick, Walter Todd, T. Lawson, A. D. Watson, E. Green, J. McLeish, Arthur Pare, F. J. Alexander, C. Baudry, W. A. Code, F. A. Carman, Geo. H. Clark, together with the members of the present Board of Directors.

An order was granted by the High Court on Saturday last, 25th ult., appointing Mr. W. Y. Denison as liquidator for the creditors. Mr. Denison's firm took charge of the stores on the day of his appointment.

Toronto, April 10.—Mr. Justice Britton has given judgment holding the majority in value debenture holders of the Civil Service Co-operative Supply Association of Ottawa entitled to appoint another receiver, even though they concurred in the winding-up and appointment of a liquidator last month.

There may be conflicting interests. If the parties agree on a receiver his name may be placed in the order. The master at Ottawa will fix the security. The liquidator is not to hand over money in his hands till further order.

This judgment is without prejudice to any action which may be brought to determine the validity of the debentures.

HIS MAJESTY'S MAILS ON SKIS.

Many tales have been told of the adventures of those engaged in the carrying of the mails to the far places of our Canadian West and North land, but few give a greater emphasis to the long established principle of "the mail must go" than the brief official statement from British Columbia:

"Owing to snow blockade which tied up traffic on railroads recently it was necessary that some other means than usual be secured for forwarding the mails. Those from Squamish to Alta Lake, a distance of thirty-eight miles, were carried by Mrs. M. Philip, who covered the route on skis, a unique record for a woman."

That is an accomplishment of which one might well be more proud than of the ability to "Vernon Castle" for a whole evening.

FOUR SONS WITH THE COLORS.

With his entire family of four sons enlisted for Canadian overseas service, Mr. Robert Russell, sub-collector of customs, Pembroke, Ont., has earned the congratulations of civil servants in general.

The first son, Major Cecil B. Russell, went to England with the first Canadian pioneers last November, and is now on duty at the Shorncliffe training camp, having been transferred to the Royal Canadian Engineers, of which he was formerly a member. He graduated from the Canadian Royal Military College ten years ago. He then spent two years in Chatham, England, under Government patronage, and after that three years in Halifax, Can. From there he went to Esquimalt, where he was when he enlisted.

Godfrey W. Russell, second son, gave up a bank managership in Vancouver and first essayed to join an

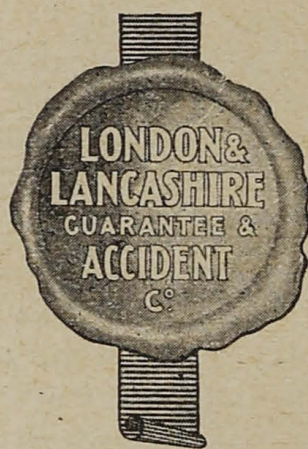
aviation corps. His ambition in this regard not being realized, he turned in another direction, and is now a member of a battery unit in Montreal.

The 30th Peel Battalion will have the third son, R. Elmer Russell, when he completes his training in Toronto. He is qualifying for the rank of lieutenant.

The youngest son, R. Irving Russell, is at the front. He is fighting in France with the machine gun section of the second Canadian Pioneers. He is 23 years of age, while the eldest son is 30.

Forethought.

Someone noticed that Pat was ambidextrous. "When I was a boy," he explained, "me father always said to me: 'Pat, learn to cut yer fingernails wid yer left hand, for some doy ye moight lose yer right hand.'"



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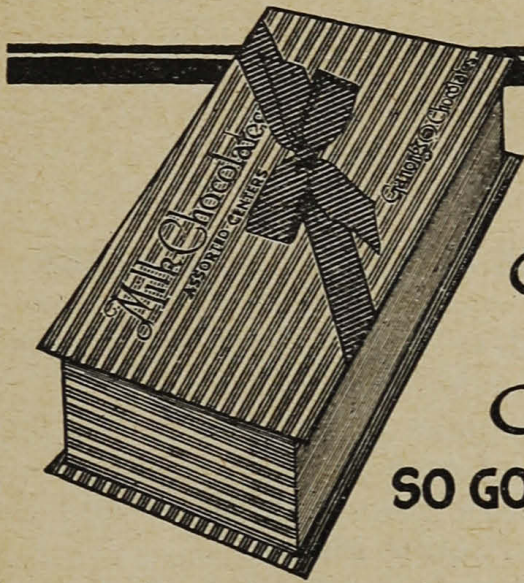
At the close of the monthly meeting of the Postal Clerks' Association at Sydney, N.S., on Friday evening, March 31st, a very pleasant surprise was given to Mr. Daniel A. Macdonald, who has enlisted in the 185th Battalion for overseas service.

The following address was read by the President, who then presented

Mr. Macdonald with a gold cased wrist watch. Mr. Macdonald thanked the members of the Association for their kindness to him, and expressed the wish that he would soon be back again to take an active part in the work of the Association.

The Address.

"We, the members of the Postal Clerks Association, and fellow-workers, heartily appreciate the



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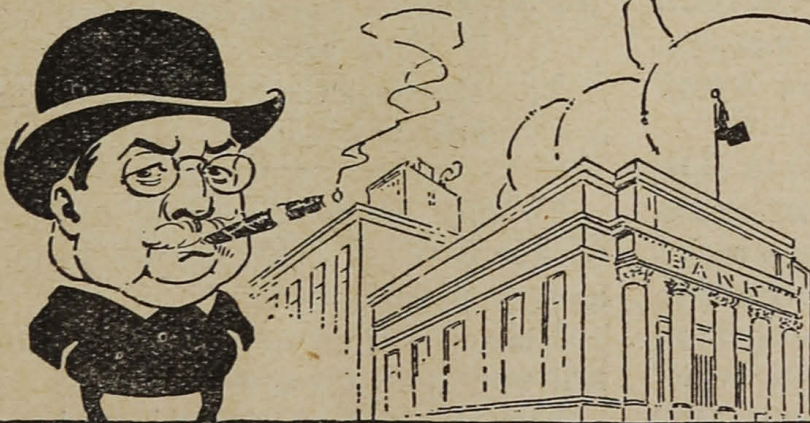
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step you have taken by enlisting for overseas service.

"You have always been to us a kind and affectionate helpmate, and your services in this office will be missed by each and every one of us.

"Your good natured smile, cheery way and Scotch sayings, will no doubt be lost to us for some time to come, but they are things that can't be easily forgotten.

"The cordial relations that existed between us since we have met as post office clerks is to us a cause of much pleasure and gratitude, and we attribute it to your ability as a worker and your character as a man.

"It is our earnest hope that the good work you have done here will be repeated in this great struggle for united peace, which besides being creditable to yourself, will be profitable to your country.

"We desire to present to you this gift, as a small token of our esteem for you, at the same time trusting that you will live a long and happy life, also that you may have a safe return from the great conflict that is at present taking place on the battlefield of Europe."

THE O.H.A.'S CALL TO ARMS.

"Lights out in the rinks!"

"Fall in!"

This is the last order of the season issued by President J. T. Sutherland of the Ontario Hockey Association, now a captain in the 146th Battalion, C.E.F.

At New Year's, when Canada called for 500,000 men, President Sutherland issued a manifesto to the members of the O.H.A., calling attention to the necessity of every young man enlisting in his country's service. Before the end of the season, 750 players and members of O.H.A. clubs

were in khaki. Now he appeals for a quick increase of enlistments to at least 1,100,—the strength of a battalion,—and proposes that the association issue a special badge of honor to every member who takes up arms.

The O.H.A. has a great hold on the amateur sport lovers of Canada already, and its organized effort to assist the national cause will win for it respect and support even among people who have no interest in athletics. It sets an example which other sporting clubs who expect to have public support after the war will do well to follow.

THE STEADY SUBSCRIBER.

How dear to our heart is the steady subscriber

Who pays in advance at the birth of each year,

Who lays down the money and does it quite gladly,

And casts around the office a halo of cheer.

He never says: "Stop it; I cannot afford it,

I'm getting more papers now than I can read,"

But always says: "Send it; our people all like it—

In fact, we all think it a help and a need."

How welcome his check when it reaches our sanctum,

How it makes our pulse throb; how it makes our heart dance;

We outwardly thank him; we inwardly bless him—

The steady subscriber who pays in advance.

Tommy (dictating letter to be sent to his wife)—"The nurses here are a very plain lot——"

Nurse—"Oh come! I say! That's not very polite to us."

Tommy—"Never mind, nurse, put it down. It'll please her!"

Personals.

General.

G. A. Dixon, for the past fifteen years secretary of the Ottawa letter carriers' organization, has been elected delegate to the convention of the Dominion Federation of Letter Carriers, which will open in Vancouver on August 14th.

L. L. Gauthier, of the Geodetic Survey, was married in the Archbishop's Palace, Montreal, on March 30th, to Juliette Authier of that city.

Gunner Edmund Groves, 1st Battery, C. F.A., C.E.F., son of Samuel Groves, of the Department of Mines, is home on convalescent leave. He was injured last June by a shell which made a fair hit on his gun. Besides two serious wounds he had twenty-eight scraps of shrapnel embedded in his flesh.

Sergeant "Jack" Merrifield, formerly of the Interior Department, a well known Ottawa athlete, is home from France, where he went with the First Contingent. Sergeant Merrifield, who has been through some of the thickest fighting on the western front, appears in good health and brings many messages to Ottawa friends.

Lance-Corporal Hal. Brown, son of J. H. Brown, of the Post Office Department, has been wounded for the third time. He was reported in the casualty list of April 8th to have a severe wound in the leg. Less than a month previous he was slightly wounded in the hand.

Obituary.

John H. Marks, who died on April 7th, in his sixty-ninth year, was for many years an employee of the Department of Public Works.

Peter Campbell McGregor, B.A., LL.D., a noted educationalist and lately registrar of North Lanark, who died in Ottawa on April 2nd, was the father of Miss A. K. McGregor, of the Office of the Auditor General, and of Miss Grace McGregor, of the Mines Branch.

William Harp Noble, assistant commissioner of lights, Department of Marine and Fisheries, died on March 24th, aged seventy-one years. He had been in the Government service for thirty-three years. The funeral was held in Toronto.

Elizabeth Grimason, mother of Thomas Grimason, collector of inland revenue at Kingston, died in that city on March 31st, aged ninety-four years.

Wilfred V. Bowen, son of U. H. Bowen,

of the Customs, Niagara Falls, died on April 1st, aged twenty-four years.

Roderick William Clarke, lately connected with the Revenue Division of the Department of the Interior, died on March 31st. He was a son of the late Patrick Clarke, of the Military Stores. Lieut.-Col. E. E. Clarke and J. MacCormac Clarke, of the Department of Militia and Defence, are brothers.

Rudolph Frigon, eldest son of J. A. Frigon, accountant of the Department of Public Printing and Stationery, passed away on March 31st.

Michael P. Mooney, railway mail clerk of the North Bay District, died in Ottawa on March 31st, aged thirty-six years. He had been in the postal service since 1908.

Clement H. Harrington, father of W. H. Harrington, superintendent of the Savings Bank Branch of the Post Office Department, died in Sydney, N.S., on March 31st, at the great age of ninety-three years.

The death occurred on April 2nd of Martha LeFevre Maingy, daughter of the late William Anstruther Maingy, assistant clerk of the old Legislative Council, and later of the Senate, and sister of LeFevre Anstruther Maingy, of the Post Office Department, aged eighty-three years.

A MEAN TRICK.

"One of the meanest tricks on earth," says a post office official, "and one which is a good deal more common than any one would think, is that played by people who prepare a nice, square little gift parcel by gumming a holly-wreath sticker on it which reads: 'Please do not open until Christmas eve,' and mail the package on Christmas *night*. This happens time and again, and is done to give people the idea that the gift was mailed on time, but was delayed in the post office.

"It's a raw deal, that's what it is, and it isn't fair to the hard-working men who are doing their level best to get the Santa Claus mail out on time. As a matter of fact, I saw a woman do this last Saturday night,—mail a parcel with one of those stickers on it just twenty-four hours *after* Christmas eve."

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10.30 A.M.

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LUNCH,
SPECIAL, 50c.

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The Spring Time Shopping Mood

Just as the weather is considered the safest topic of conversation, present indications of the shopping mood would lead one to conclude that a very extensive percentage of the women of Ottawa consider that to be safe in the matter of their Springtime and Easter raiment they must order garments that bear the Murphy-Gamble label. In order to cope with the situation we would request that patrons give the following facts their worthy consideration: The glorious Springtime festival is less than two weeks distant, and many women have not the slightest intention of waiting for the 23rd of April to wear new clothes. To these women New Clothes are NEW CLOTHES, to be worn on the first occasion that presents itself or the first fine day that the Weather Man is out to appreciate them. For these women we advise morning shopping and early week orders.

A word to the wise and a hint to a receptive mind is all that's necessary. Be prepared!

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TEA
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THE POSTAL JOURNAL

VOL. I.

APRIL 14, 1916

No. 14

*Edited under the auspices of
The Postal Clerks' Association of the Dominion of Canada.*

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The Association Aims.

1. To obtain for all Post Office clerks one day in each week for a day of rest.
2. To impress upon the Government our desire that eight hours shall constitute a day's work, such eight hours to be completed within twelve hours and to consist of not more than two attendances.
3. That seven hours constitute a day's work between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.
4. To obtain time off for all overtime worked or payment in lieu thereof.
5. To secure equal conditions for all Post Office clerks, whether employed in semi-staff or city offices.
6. To abolish, by any and every means in its power, the patronage system, at the same time bringing all possible pressure to bear upon the Government in order to obtain the adoption of the merit system throughout the entire Civil Service.
7. To secure, as a reward for merit and long and faithful service, the higher positions in the Postal Service, knowing that such positions can be filled more advantageously from the rank and file of the service than by the appointment of individuals having no knowledge of Postal work.
8. To stimulate and foster organization among Post Office clerks, believing, as we do, that by this method only is it possible to obtain justice at the hands of the Department and equal rights for all.

All correspondence, matter for publication, etc., should be addressed to the Editor, A. Venables, Calgary, Alberta.

A REAL DOMINION POSTAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION.

Our readers will no doubt be pleased to hear that the Ottawa Postal Clerks' Association has at last decided to throw in their lot with the Dominion Association. The fact that we have anticipated this move by the Ottawa Association does not in the least diminish the satisfaction which all of our members feel at the actual realization of our hopes. When we look around and see the advantages of organized and united effort we often ask why it is that a Dominion Postal Clerks' Association was not in existence years be-

fore many of us even thought of entering the Postal Service. Take for example the most recent object lesson of united effort, viz.: the sweeping victory of the Temperance forces in the Province of Manitoba. We ask, could this have been accomplished without much effort and co-operation? The people of Manitoba wanted something which had been denied to them for a very long time and at last realized that the only way to get that something was to organize their forces. So it is with Post Office Clerks; we want something, in fact many things, and want these things badly, yet there are still many hundreds of clerks who will not realize

that there is only one way to get that which we want. The road is clear — the writing on the wall is plain—get together, organize your forces from Coast to Coast. The following offices in the East have either joined or have signified their willingness to co-operate with us:—Sydney, N.S., Ottawa, Kingston, and St. Thomas, Ont. What's the matter with Montreal, Toronto, Quebec, St. John's, Halifax, etc.? Are they working under a different Department or under different rules and regulations?

To all whom it may concern. If you are satisfied yourself do not forget that there are scores of your fellow clerks who need your assistance. If you work in a City office you are therefore a Civil Servant and recognized as such, but don't forget that there are hundreds of clerks employed in semi-staff offices who are performing the same duties as you are, yet who are not recognized as Civil Servants and therefore do not enjoy any of the privileges to which they are rightfully entitled. You, in your City office, have a schedule of salaries and know when you are entitled to receive promotion or increase in salary, yet the semi-staff office employee has to rely on the generosity of the Department. We understand that many of these offices have received notification that there will be no more increases granted, as the revenue of the office does not entitle any increase in the salary list. On the other hand we understand that all letter carriers employed in these same offices are being granted their increases as usual. We know of cases where clerks are receiving from \$10 to \$15 per month less than letter carriers who are their juniors in the Service to the extent of from one to two years. Now, don't you think that you would like to assist these brother clerks of yours? If you would, then get busy. The path is clear and no guiding hand is necessary if you are in earnest.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

We find that the Postal Corps, on active service, is now being augmented from time to time by the transfer of postal clerks and R.M.S. clerks from regiments that have seen some hard service. This is a most commendable procedure and we think, quite as it should be. Any positions that there may be in connection with the army work and which are considered "snaps", should go to men who have done 'their bit.'

Branch secretaries will please note Regina's request for particulars of delegates

to convention at an early a date as possible.

A letter written by this association appeared in the Winnipeg "Tribune" recently and caused a small stir. Space prevents us copying the article but it had to do with the question of enemy aliens in the service and of the obstructions in the way of postal clerks enlisting. While we admit that the letter was straight and to the point, it also had the advantage of being true so that this association has nothing to fear and nothing to add or subtract from the statements made. If the truth hurts at times and it's annoying to some people—who is to blame?

It is our opinion that never has a convention been so badly needed as at the present time. Members may be assured that the coming gathering at Regina will be no wasted effort and that the results from same will be easily discernible.

In one of the Provincial Assembly's recently, a member of the opposition rose to give notice of motion to eliminate patronage from the Civil Service. According to the newspaper report, much laughter was caused by a member on the other side of the house, rising to enquire if this was something similar to the Hon. Borden's Halifax platform, previous to his coming into power. Much laughter. Oh! it's a whale of a joke—for some people. It's very sad to think that the Provinces can point to the Dominion as an excuse for the present system of patronage.

With the open air season here once more and its gardening, chickens and sports, members will do well to bear in mind that at least one evening a month belongs to the cause.

An Austrian employee of the R.M.S. has recently been granted special leave of absence in order to spend some time at the Internment camp. This and other things that we might mention, justifies any statements that this association has made in this connection.

The bitterest Liberal organ in the province referred to higher up, commended the Conservative member who moved the abolition of the patronage method of filling the ranks of the civil service. Surely this is a sign of the times.

However it is not quite so much the method of filling the service that is so objectionable. It's bad enough we well know but it's the latitude that some of these men have once they are in the service that is so irksome and so unjust to the remainder of the men who have not or who do not choose to use the same "pull."

We have heard indirectly that the Medicine Hat branch have recently reorganized and are now once again an interested bunch. Congratulations M. H. You've

been asleep long enough. We are waiting to hear from you in these columns.

We have now three clear months before our annual convention and this is an opportune moment to remind officers of the branches which have not yet paid the per capita tax, that same would be welcome at Box 642 at an early date.

It does not require any extraordinary power to enable one to easily come to the conclusion that our friend in Saskatoon, who writes the account of the dance, is uninitiated into the joys of dancing himself. One can almost see the scorn on his visage as he sits down to write.

As requested by our correspondent in the Alberta Capital, we did a certain thing for him on the 17th of last month, but regret that up to the present we have no trace of the P. N. for 25c.

BRANCH NOTES.

Saskatoon.

In spite of a raging snow storm, which doubtless affected the attendance, the annual dance held on March 15, proved to be, in every respect, the most successful ever given by this branch. There were between fifty and sixty couples present when the M.C., Jimmy Johnson, announced the Postal Introduction Dance, after which everyone had a nodding acquaintance with everybody. At least, the impression of a non-dancing man is that a nodding acquaintance is sufficient as this dancing business does not leave much time or breath for talking. During the evening refreshments were served and a hearty vote of thanks is due to the ladies for the excellence of same. One of the prettiest exhibitions of dancing was seen when Miss Donn and the man fra Kilmarnock danced a highland schottische. It's a pity ye didna have on the kilts "Billy." There was a program of 24 dances, and seven extras were added. Work!! Oh no! just a dance. A special car was ordered for 2 a.m. to convey the survivors home. This was a great idea, or so everyone thinks with one exception. The car after running over three-fourths of the system decided to quit and Dick had to hoof it about two and a half miles home.

Prince Albert.

Not "business as usual" but "business as it should be" is the future slogan of this office. The clerks met recently and listened to an address on "Semi Staff Offices" by our retiring Vice-President. Eventually it was decided to reorganize this branch on lines to suit a semi staff

office of 15 to 20 men, and the scheme submitted by the speaker, Mr. H. L. Doyle, was adopted. The following officers were elected for one year, by ballot: President, H. L. Doyle; secretary-Treasurer, J. W. Norman; Representative, A. M. Cock. The meeting was a very enthusiastic one from every point of view and the very pleasing part of it which spoke well for the new idea of reorganization as an "interest awakener," was the presence of several delinquents who had almost been given up as lost to the association.

Winnipeg.

The Winnipeg boys, in conjunction with the other branches of the postal service, held a most successful concert and dance on March 23rd in the Manitoba Hall. The profits from the evening were for the Returned Soldiers' Association and it was under the patronage of Col. H. N. Ruttan and Col. Geo. Carruthers, both of whom were present. The first part of the evening a number of talented artists entertained the guests and the latter portion was made good use of by the dancers. After the third dance, supper was partaken of by 302 delighted folk and the veterans organization will benefit to the extent of about \$50.00.

Vancouver.

There seems to be lots to talk about in Vancouver these days. At the last two meetings the entertainments have had to take a back seat altogether. If there's time enough next meeting we ought to have a record evening after conserving our talent so long. Next meeting will be for the nomination of officers and delegate to the forthcoming Convention at Regina. We wonder who's going to accompany our President to Regina this year. At present the field seems to be pretty open, but there may be a dark horse. One can never tell.

What a lot has happened lately. Quite a number of our boys have been granted leave for active service, and will shortly join their respective regiments. We'll require another Roll of Honour, the present one now being completely filled up.

And another wedding. — After all we told you, Alec. There seems to be an epidemic of this sort of thing around this office at present. So we wish you and Mrs. Brooke long life and every happiness. The wishes of the staff were embodied in tangible form in the shape of a case of cutlery, which was presented to the would-be Benedict by Mr. A. S. Black.

Here's a good one—Our "Dead" clerk recently handled a Government pamphlet entitled "The Provision of Employment for Members of the C. E. F. on their re-

turn to Canada." forwarded from a certain Department at Ottawa addressed to (you'd hardly credit it) The Editor "GERMAN PRESS" Vancouver. We are thankful to say no German paper disgraces this city. The Editor of the German Press took just one look around him in August, 1914, and fled for sanctuary to the States, taking his paper with him, and there he deems it safer to remain.

What has happened to the literary men of our staff? The Committee have waited and hoped for some contributions, but sad to relate, there's nothing doing. Our Poet promised us something, and now that spring is here our hopes are growing stronger. This is a preliminary notice to prepare other Branches for the shock in the event of our Poet coming through.

Will a certain member of the G.D. staff kindly cease from telling that joke (?), the last line of which is "And when I came out of hospital." Most of us have a sense of humour, but really this is too subtle.

CONVENTION CITY CHAT.

The newly elected entertainment committee of the Regina Branch arranged a whist drive and dance, which proved to be a very successful one, on March 22nd. The evening opened with whist at fifteen tables, after which refreshments were served and greatly appreciated. The members of the committee responsible for serving the refreshments deserve great credit. Who was responsible for the layer cakes? they were fine. Following the refreshments the whist prize winners were announced as follows: Winner of ladies first prize, Miss G. Crasswell. Gentlemen's first prize, R. Beauchamp. Ladies second prize, Mrs. R. Beauchamp. Gentlemen's second prize, Pte. W. Gathescole. The floor was then cleared and the dancers had their innings, which was thoroughly enjoyed right up to "Home sweet home." We noticed Percy and he seemed to be having a whale of a time with the one step.

Everybody was wearing that "Have another one soon" look, and I guess that we will, as such evenings are really enjoyable.

Will every branch sending delegates to the convention at Regina please notify the secretary of the Regina Branch at the earliest possible date as to the number of delegates it is sending, as we want lots of time in order to arrange a right royal time for them.

Regina's hopes for convention week:— Lots of visitors, lots of business, lots of progress, and lots of fun.

Come right along. We've got a good bunch to look after you. Something stirring all the time.

No Smoking Please.

They will still continue to leave us. Mr. Stanley Tranter has been smitten with a desire to lead the simple life mid the cows and chickens, and departs for Old Ontario in April. Good luck to you Stanley, you have made many friends in the office during your four years among us.

Messrs. C. Kingdom and H. Pethrick have enlisted with the 60th Battery. This makes twenty-two members from this branch who have enlisted. Not too bad, eh?

Messrs. E. G. Carter and G. Tomlinson have also left Regina to seek pastures new.

The General Monthly meeting of the Regina Branch was held on the 19th inst., and the attendance was a record one. Such an attendance was indeed gratifying to the officers, and it is to be hoped that it will be kept up in the future. Stay with it boys, if you want to know what is happening and why it is so, the meeting is the place to find out.

The big item of business at this meeting was the election of two delegates to represent this branch at the convention. In response to the President's call for nominations, the following were nominated: Messrs. R. Beauchamp, E. Senior, A. Child, H. Selby, J. Parker, and C. Trevenna. The voting was very close indeed, and finally resulted in the election of R. Beauchamp and E. Senior. Mr. Senior is at present with the 195th Battalion, but as he expects to be in Regina through the summer this will not prevent him from continuing his activities on behalf of this branch.

Three new members, Messrs. Holmes, Mann and Davis were received into the fold; this is indeed good, but there are yet several eligibles in the office, and we certainly have room for them too. Bring them along somebody.

Regina simply won't be left out. We had read in the last issue of the good fortune that had befallen Messrs. Aitken of Calgary, and Nutt of Vancouver, when somebody said: "Teddy's smiling too." Upon enquiry we found that Mr. E. Jackson of this office has been visited by a boy, who shows every indication of staying. "Good luck Teddy."

By the way, is Miss Nutt a Hazel Nutt?

PURELY PERSONAL.

G. C. Bloomfield, a well known member of the Victoria staff, has received a commission as Garrison Signalling officer at Grantham, England. Mr. Bloomfield went overseas as a private in the 30th Battalion more than a year ago so that Victoria may well feel proud of this member of theirs who has risen up from the ranks to his

present position. Since arriving in the Old Land, Mr. Bloomfield has married, so that we shall all congratulate him and wish him luck and a safe return to Victoria in a due course.

WHY THE CONVENTION IS AT REGINA.

In three months' time our fourth convention will be under way in Regina. Although this is our fourth meeting, to Regina goes the honor of holding the first Dominion-wide gathering. Until the actual time came to discuss the place for this meeting, it is very doubtful if Regina was thought of in this connection by most of those interested, and the small middle west branches have to thank Regina's representative, the present Vice-President, for the fact that once again they have a splendid opportunity to be represented in person at a very small financial outlay. Perhaps of all our Western branches, the Saskatchewan Capital is the most suitable and the most get-at-able for all to reach, and the Vancouver convention had the Semi-Staff offices uppermost in mind when it decided to hold the next convention in this city. Our small branches will therefore be well advised if they make every effort to be personally represented on this occasion as it is probable that it will be a long time before another such opportunity occurs.

Alberta has had two conventions, last year it was on the Pacific coast and now it is to be in Saskatchewan. It is a practical certainty that, after this year, the conventions will go eastward possibly for several years and the expense of attending, in that case, will be more than some of our smaller offices can be expected to meet. We do not believe that this can be said by any Western branch this year, so that it is hoped that every City will accept the chance while they may. In the past, each year has seen an improved convention, and at present everything points to this being more noticeable than ever this coming July. See to it that your branch helps to make it so.

MUSINGS OF "HEB."

The Parcel Department.

Good morning, Sir, See what? Oh! here it is, thanks, nice morning, oh, yes; it's dreary being tied up in here, but of course it has its little compensations, you see

some funny situations. Just a minute, yes, Mam, now just again please, and a little slower, I see, now I'm beginning to see what you are talking about, you sent a parcel away to England and they never got it. When did you send it? But, Mam, it takes 14 days to go, you see Mam, you sent that parcel too early, you should have saved it another three years and sent it by the new route, via Hudson Bay. Oh, yes; much shorter—couldn't say as to it being any cheaper Mam.—No,—there's no advance posting. There's lots of advance swearing Mam, but that won't interest you, good-bye. I was talking of funny situations, excuse me—Good morning Miss,—a parcel,—what name?—Oh, yes, how stupid of me, Miss Jones to be sure, — what street do you live in Miss Jones? Oh! where do you live? — in a balloon—oh, an apartment block. The Oliver Block, quite a nice block that, here we are, Miss Jones, Oliver Block, lovely weather Miss Jones, mind the step, last one the lowest, good-bye.

72 cents, please,—never mind what he said, it's 72 cents. He doesn't understand parcels, he's giving you commissions on money orders, he can't weigh a parcel, even, it's an art, sir. A parcel clerk is the seventh wonder of the world, you see, put the parcel on the scales so, if it bumps down, well, it's conclusive it's heaviest on the side it bumps on. Of course, while performing this operation you must hold your breath. This is in strict confidence, of course, as it's against regulations to give out information,—good-bye. Well, sir, you see the entanglements a parcel clerk is liable to get into and the questions he gets. A lady said to a clerk one day—"Say, young man, what's the difference between the one cent war tax and an ordinary one cent stamp"? Well, that needed some concentration of thought, but then a parcel clerk is always ready. "Well, Mam, he said, there's no difference at all, only the mucilage on one is a little stronger than on the other." Oh, you meet some queer customers. There is one in particular: the "dear old lady," you know, the fussy person who was not expecting a parcel, but thought she would just call, as there might be one, and she calls twice a day. Then there's the person who calls for the parcel that was never sent. — "They told her they sent it and it must be here some place." Then there's Mrs. Smith's family, who are expecting a parcel at Christmas from their Auntie Liza, in England, and they begin to anticipate its arrival the June previous, and each member of the family makes one trip a day from June on. And last, but not least, is the humbug who will insist on selling you a Bible.

REFLECTIONS—BY "RAMBLER."

If what I hear is correct, and I have good reason to believe it is, we may hear something in the near future which will be very interesting to our associates in Semi-Staff offices. There are also rumours around of a big awakening on the part of some of our Semi-Staff members. And why shouldn't there be? The Semi-Staff offices can help the association a lot themselves. I claim that to a great extent, these offices are solely to blame themselves for the isolated position they are in today and unless they awaken, and very quickly too, they are very liable, so far as their own efforts are concerned, to remain isolated. The Semi-Staff question is a big one and cannot be gone fully into in the space at my command, but I would strongly recommend that they bestir themselves at the earliest opportunity. The dawn is approaching. I, like my brother journalist "Heb," also find that you do meet people who will persist in speaking of things that they heard or of their own particular pet trouble, but I did have recently a case brought to my notice which, to say the least, is a rank case of injustice. In a certain office there is a clerk, on the Money Order wicket in full charge of cash and supplies of stamps to the value of three thousand dollars. He has been on the staff two years, has passed the two examinations, is married and has a small family and draws the niggardly salary of \$56.66 per month. This is the limit! The convention at Regina this year should be a very important event in the mind of every progressive postal clerk, and it behooves every branch to send wherever possible a delegate, or ask some other office to represent them. The time to form your resolutions is at hand, so that they can be sent in to the secretary for inclusion in the agenda. I would like to again draw attention to the important question of branch visiting. This is the greatest step to a live association that I have heard of, get together boys, its doing Regina and Moose Jaw good, it will prove as good to you. The clerks in our offices are rising in the estimation of the public. The "gentleman" on the parcel wicket is very significant! By the way "Heb," in his musings, is very enthusiastic on the characteristics of men in this branch of the service. He swears by them, the public swear about them as a rule. Clerks in some offices swear and rave at the odour arising from foreigners coming to the post office wickets and hanging around inside. Whenever will clerks understand that our post offices are only intended to act as immigration

halls to shelter them from our severe winters. Don't be surprised if you find a whole family has moved in some morning.

THE DEPARTMENT AND THE ASSOCIATION.

There is little reason to doubt that the Department, as an institution, is not over fond of our organization. It is not surprising, in fact, it's only natural that this should be so. It is also probable that, as the Association grows in strength, it will be approved of less and less. It can, therefore, we think, be assumed that the executive officials at the Capital would like to stunt the growth of our body as much as possible. We are of the opinion that the easiest manner of accomplishing this would be the very reverse to the present mode of dealing with us. The more trouble it is for the employees to find out for themselves the whys and wherefores of the numerous questions that crop up, the actual rules and regulations governing their conduct, pay, privileges, etc., so much the more will they continue to organize in order to get at the bottom of these things. At present the Department could hardly do much better if they were trying, and we hope they are not to keep the rank and file in as much ignorance as possible regarding matters seriously affecting them.

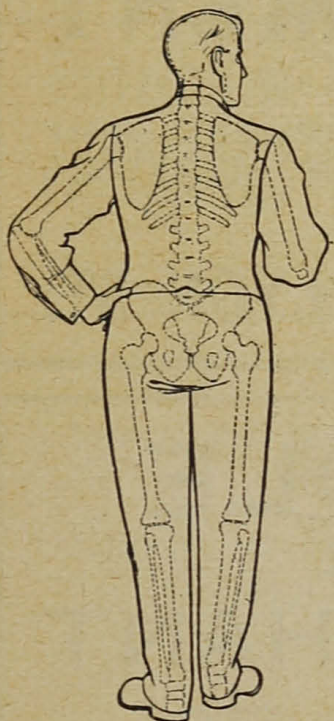
Our letters of enquiry on different subjects receive wonderfully clever replies, telling up just as little as possible, and thus making us all the more anxious to go deeper into the subject. Our Convention memoranda are practically ignored. "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." Now we honestly believe that if the Department (and we may say here that, when we make use of the word Department, we intend to include all those acting as employers which includes the higher local officials as well as those at Ottawa), were to show its hand a little more and take the trouble to explain fully many of the points that at present are shrouded in darkness, they would be using the greatest force that exists to make our organization a worthless one. If they would only answer our enquiries on a more generous scale and give some attention to our Convention memoranda, no one would be able to question the honesty of their intentions.

After all, we are all like children. Give them an evasive answer and they'll make it their business to get the actual facts. Give them all particulars, and the subject loses most of its interest.

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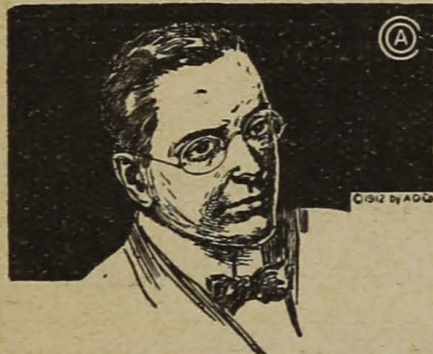
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